



SWARC NEWS

Meeting Notes

SWARC 6 JAN 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Mike Gaither, K4MWG.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bernie Jones, N4BAJ.

The meeting followed the chili cookoff event with 25+ members attending and either five or six different chili recipes brought in by members. I believe that all of the chili makers were men so I'm challenging the women in our crowd to make some next January!

Treasurer Christine Fernandini, KJ4AEO, provided a treasurer's report stating that we have \$1,9299.26 in the bank account as of the meeting.

President Mike stated that he has new raffle tickets for members to sell; they will be for two \$250.00 Visa gift cards, which hopefully will make the tickets more attractive to a broader audience.

Secretary Richard Hall, K7RLH, read a Christmas card from Julie Royster, KT4JR, acknowledging cards and emails from members and flowers sent from the club when her husband Larry Royster, NC4LR (SK), passed away earlier in the year.

Vice-President Brian Knox, KK4BK, talked about activity on the bands and challenged members to just call out a 'CQ' and listen; he says the bands are very active! He also suggested that we members make resolutions to do something new in ham radio in 2020. Brian announced that Ryan Avery will host the Winter Field Day at his QTH in Angier on 25 January 2020 and it will be a potluck—so, show up and bring something to share with others. Brian also mentioned the NC QSO Party which is upcoming and mentioned that RARS is looking for sponsors for awards. Bernie Jones, N4BAJ, moved that we donate \$50.00 to RARS; motion was seconded and carried. One last thing—Brian encouraged the members to check out ARRL's W1AQ broadcast schedule and participate even if only by listening for activity.

The program was presented by Karl Bowman, W4CHX, current Section Manager (SM) for North Carolina. He is retiring at the end of March and he introduced, by way of his slide presentation, the successor SM who is Marv Hoffman, WA4NC, who is from Boone. Marv is highly qualified and will take over as SM on 1 Apr 2020.

Karl's presentation was entitled 'Comments on the NC Section (Jan 2020).' In it, he discussed some statistics on membership and number of licensees by class in the state of North Carolina. He presented a wealth of information available to hams who are ARRL members. Incidentally, SWARC is an ARRL sanctioned club and North Carolina is ranked 7th among 71 groups that make up the USA membership in ARRL. Karl discussed opportunities for public

service and focused on CERT training as one that he favors (more info can be found at nc-cert.com)

Karl received a rousing round of applause at the end of his briefing.

All in all, it was a great meeting that adjourned at 8:25 pm.

73, Richard Hall – K7RLH – Secretary

South Wake Amateur Radio Club Treasurer Report

December 2019

Club Addition and Reduction Activity

Additions

Raffle Tickets	785.00	cash/checks	\$740.00 cash, \$35.00 ck#8269, \$10.00 ck#8474
Donation	125.00	cash	donation for ham shack-Gary Rogers (WA4YMZ)
Donation	100.00	cash	donation for ham shack-David Weatherington (KN4OFB)
Donation	200.00	check #6577	donation for ham shack-David Krum (NW3U)

Total

Additions 1210.00

Reductions

Ham Shack	940.00	cash	reimbursed Mike Gaither
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Total

Reductions 940.00

RBC Bank Account Activity

Balance as of 12/02/2019	1659.26		
Addition	1210.00		
Reduction	940.00		

Balance as of
01/06/2020

1929.26

Christine Fernandini KJ4AEO
01/06/2020

NET Report

***Please we ask that all net reports be sent to
Joe at***

draftin driver3226@yahoo.com

***Joe did comment that only one or two net
controls were turning in the net reports.***

Please send your reports to Joe.

***Joe, KM4YTF is on the lookout for new net
control operators. If interested please
contact Joe, KM4YTF.***

**Okay Joe has put together a spread sheet for tracking
check-ins. If everyone does like they should then
there will be no reason to send reports in any more.
Thanks Joe.**

MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder that it is time to pay membership dues for the 2019-2020 time frame.

\$30 for individual and \$5 for each family member.

You can bring a check or cash to the meeting Monday October 7th or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will let me know she has received them so I can update the list. If you mail them, give me a heads up so I can mark it as pending on the roster.

Makes checks payable to South Wake ARC.

If you are going to mail it, send it to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

I have taken over as Membership Director from Ryan, so please direct any questions to me.

I will be developing an online form so new members can fill out the application online and mail or bring a check to a meeting.

I will be reaching out to all members here soon to make sure I have the latest contact information, addresses, etc so I can make sure the membership list reflects current information.

Thanks

David Sosnin

N4TTN

n4ttn.radio@gmail.com

David has updated the membership list and sent it out. Please check the list and make sure you are on it. If you do not see your name then you have a couple of options: 1) Pay your dues and get back on the list 2) If you have paid then fuss at David 3) David forgets that everyone is not as social as he is so if you did not receive a copy then send David an email at n4ttn.radio@gmail.com and request a copy.

Public Service

Check the RARS web site often for Public Service opportunities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointed Positions

President

Mike Gaither – K4MWG

Vice President

Brian Knox – KK4BK

Secretary

Rich Hall, K7RLH

Treasurer

Christy Fernandini - KJ4AEO

Member-At-Large

Al Crawford – WA4TCJ

Member-At-Large

Charles Bruckner – KG4MXV

Member-At-Large

Dan Gilbertson

Membership Chair

David Sossin – N4TTN

NET MANAGER

Joe - KM4YTF

Special Events Director

Gino Fernandini – KI4YXO

Public Service Director

David Krum – NW3U

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of our members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service.

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network www.ncprn.net

GigaParts www.gigaparts.com

QRZ www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS www.jars..net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC www.southwakearc.com

Greetings to all 145.210 SWARC repeater members.

I have made the decision to temporarily allow the Central Carolina Sky Warn net and the STATE EOC to move their operations to the 145.210 repeater. Some explanation is in order to all SWARC members and I will attempt to outline the circumstances that have brought me to my current Decision.

For a very very long time the 146.880 repeater located on the same tower as is the 145.210 repeater has been the flagship 2 meter repeater as to providing operations for Central Carolina Skywarn, communications for the office of State Emergency Management, and other public service events and

nets as needed. Central Carolina Skywarn is tasked with getting live spotter reports and other time valued information from trained spotters in all these counties when called upon by the National Weather Service. Sky Warn is only activated by direct request from the National Weather Service.

The State EOC uses Winlink for some communications between the Eastern, Central, and Western branch offices during emergencies. They also use the 146.880 repeater for voice communications between the Central and Eastern branch office in Kinston NC during emergencies.

The main 146.880 repeater on the tall Auburn tower has failed and we have been operating on a backup repeater on a 350 foot tower near Garner NC. We are fortunate to have been allowed to utilize this site to keep a repeater on the air on 146.880. Unfortunately, the current footprint of the backup repeater is extremely limited, especially to the East of Raleigh. IE, it is not useable at all even in the Wilson area let alone Rocky Mt., Greenville, Goldsboro, and other key areas that both SkyWarn and the State EOC have a need to communicate with.

There is lots and lots of work going on at the Auburn tall towers sites currently as to the new DTV channel and equipment changes. This work has been going on for 3 or 4 months now and will continue to go on until Probably early or late December of 2019. We are guests on the tower and do not and will not be in the way of all the work that is currently going on at the sites. So, it will probably be early in 2020 before the main 146.880 equipment can be replaced.

The K4ITL 145.210 repeater is the only 2-meter repeater left in the local area that can satisfy the needs of Central Carolina SkyWarn and the State EOC. In my opinion, the right thing to do in this situation is to SHARE our resource with those who need it. I am extremely grateful to the South Wake Amateur Radio Club for their support of the 145.210 repeater and I consider them as the primary user of this repeater.

Here's the way I wish operations to be carried out until we can get the primary 146.880 repeater back on the air.

There is no reason why both the nightly net and the trader's net can't be carried out on the repeater as they always have been. If SkyWarn happens to be activated when it's time for a net, unless there is emergency traffic in progress, the net goes on as usual with an occasional standby to ask if there is any SkyWarn traffic.

If SkyWarn is activated at other times, during the day or evening, there is still no problem with normal conversations being carried on the 145.210 repeater by SWARC members and others who use the repeater. Just take a pause now and then to see if there is any SkyWarn Traffic.

I hope everyone will be okay with these changes, in the spirit of public service and public safety, it's good for us to be of help when we can.

If anyone wants to discuss this issue or has any other questions or suggestions please feel free to contact me at:

dannyhampton@fastmail.com

If the NWS requests that SkyWarn activates tomorrow morning or later in

the day tomorrow, They will activate on the 145.210 repeater.

Thanks to one and all for your continued support and assistance in making this work smoothly.

Cordially,
Danny Hampton

K4ITL

Vice President Notes

We all have it. Items laying around our shack that doesn't get used and needs to find a home where someone will use it.

The South Wake Annual Auction is just the place to bring it to be "Re-purposed". It will give another ham the opportunity to upgrade or increase his/her operating capabilities and give you some extra funds to buy that next "Gotta Have" piece of equipment.

So, start looking about your shack for items to bring. The meeting/auction is February 3rd, so you have a few weeks to look about.

March 1st is the NC QSO party. The South Wake ARC will be sponsoring the award for Single Operator Low Power. Let's see if someone from the club can win this award.

New Years Resolution/Challenge. Do something new with HAM radio. Doesn't have to be hard or expensive, just try something not usual to your ham related operations. Suggestions: Switch from Phone to CW. CW to Digital, VHF FM to VHF SSB or Repeater to Simplex. The ARRL has Monday thru Friday transmissions in Digital, Voice and CW that can help you get established in one of those platforms. Check out the QST magazine or the ARRL website, search W1AW, for transmission times.

ARRL NC Section Manager Karl Bowman (W4CHX) is stepping down in April to take on a different role in ECOMM. Look him up on QRZ.com if you are interested in ECOMM Training.

The Spring Raffle is two, \$250 Gift Cards enabling you to buy what you want. See K4MWG or KK4BK for tickets. Others will be recruited to sales duties soon.

Good Read: <https://www.onallbands.com/beyond-your-local-repeater-15-things-to-do-with-a-technician-license/>

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